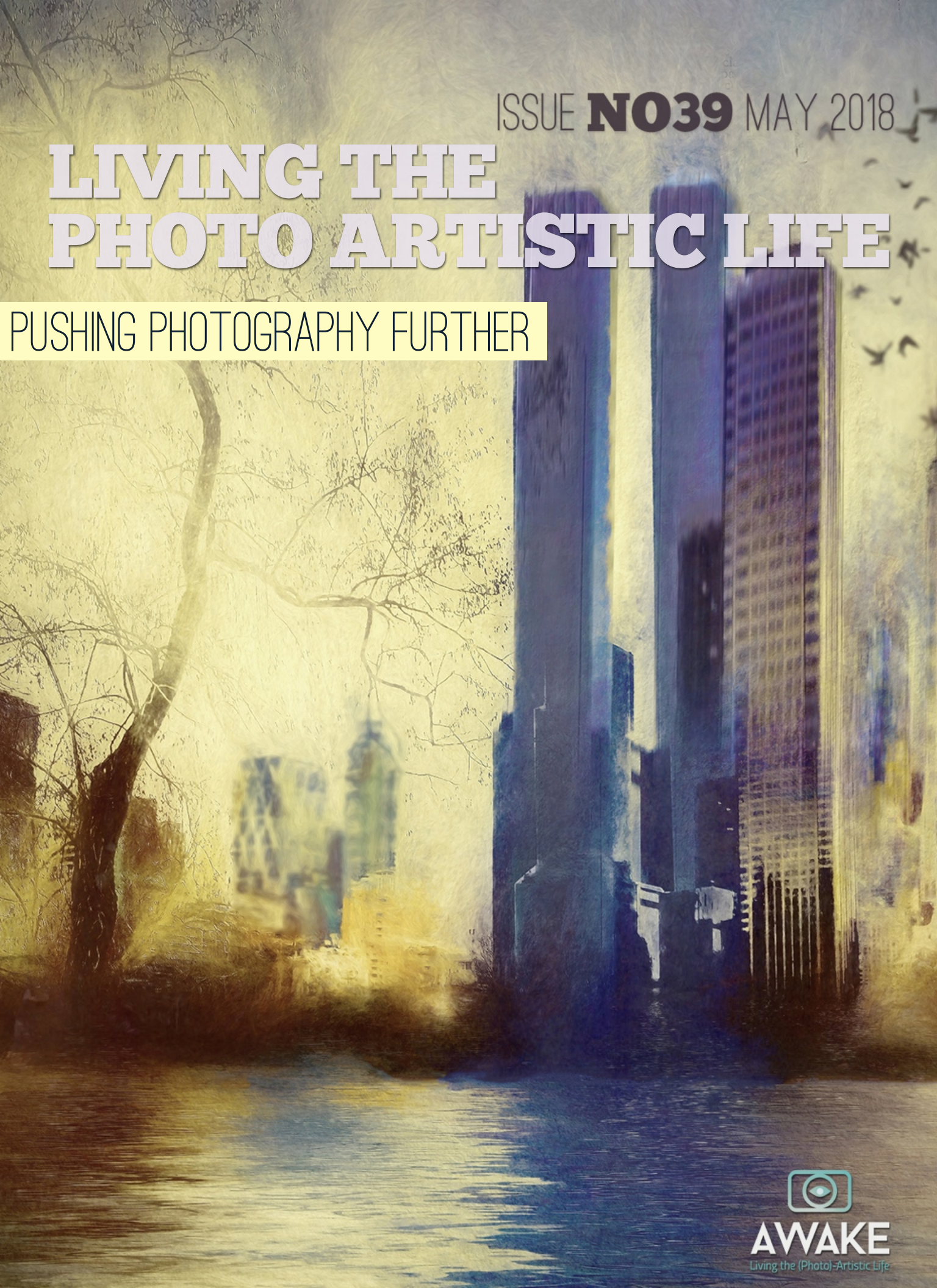


ISSUE NO39 MAY 2018

LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

PUSHING PHOTOGRAPHY FURTHER

AWAKE
Living the (Photo)-Artistic Life

CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS

004 LETTER FROM THE EDITOR
005 LAUREN MARTIN
006 DEBRA JEAN KELDAY
007 TD MATTHEWS
008 ALI OPPY
009 CAROLINE JULIA MOORE
010 VIBEKE ALVESTAD JOHANSEN
011 JANET SIPL
012 CATHRINE BLAN
013 EVELYN ELWAN
014 JIM LASKOWICZ
015 JEAN HUTTER
016 LEANNE M WILLIAMS
017 KATHLEEN GREENWOOD
018 CHARLENE MAGINN
019 JOHANNA GOUDSBLOM
020 BILLA BOZEM
021 ROCHELLE MARSHALL
022 ANNA CZEKALA
023 MERRILEE SOBERG
024 JULIE POWELL
025 CLARISSA WILSON
026 NICOLE WILDE
027 KATHRYN VINCE
028 BEVERLY EVERSON
029 JANICE S. BATTERBEE
030 ANNE HERBERT
031-035 FEATURED ARTIST: CHERYL PARRIS
036 NANCY LOBER
037 SHEILA TENNES
038 BARBARA MIERAU-KLEIN
039 BERNIE TUFFS
040 GAIL EDWARDS
041 PAM HENDERSON
042 PHYLLIS GRANNIS
043 NICKY JAMESON
044 RENEA WARNOCK
045 NANCIE ROWAN
046 NORMA SLACK
047 PATRICIA SALDANA
048 DONNA DEAN
049 JENNIFER DONOHOE
050 CINDY CHARLES
051 DIANA HARONIS
052 FRANCINE MALO
053 JEFF VALDEZ
054 NICHOLAS SWEET-ROGERS
055 SONIA PUSEY

LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

PUSHING PHOTOGRAPHY FURTHER

ISSUE NO39 MAY 2018

056 MYRIAM KRIEL
057 CATHERINE KING
058 AUGUST NAUDE
059 AMELIA BLANCO
060 SUE MASTERSON
061 LUANA LAUBSCHER
062-063 LOU ANN DONAHUE
064 SOUMAYA SCHNUR
065 PHILIP MCLOUGHLIN
066 DAWN SPEARS
067 DAN LAVERY
068 DALE BOTHA
069 MAGGY R. THORVALDSDOTTIR PEASE
070 RAY KINGSBURY
071 BOB RUDE
072 LOUISE CAMPBELL
073 REBECAH THOMPSON
074 BERNICE FARGUS
075 TINA WILSON
076 DEBORAH DE JUAN
077 TRACY COOPER
078 SUSAN PULASKI
079 WANDA ANN KINNAMAN
080 TIYANA MARJANOVIC
081 TONNIE WOLFE
082 PATRICIA K. SAIZAN
083 VIV BUCKLEY
084 WAYNETOTHEMAX
085 PHIL CLARK
086 MARJUT KORHONEN
087 SHERI EMERSON
088 BETHANY PERRON
089 RICHARD STRANGE
090 BARBARA DUDZINSKA
091 PAMELA HUNTINGTON
092 TRISH HOSKIN
093 LOU ANN GOODRICH
094 ANDY DENCH
095 EDWIN LEUNG
096 CINDY COLLIER HARRIS
097 CHERRY HAMMONS
098 NINA IRVIN
099 BARBARA A LANE
100 DENISE MCDERMOTT
101 NANCY BRIZENDINE
102 DAVE HATTORI
103 JANET ROLLINS DONOVAN
104-111 **CONTRIBUTING DESIGNERS SPOTLIGHT**

FRONT COVER & T.O.C. IMAGE
CHERYL PARRIS

AWAKE
Living the (Photo)-Artistic Life

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

SEBASTIAN MICHAELS

I'm really quite lucky. Because while we all get to enjoy seeing the artwork celebrated here each month, I've gotten to *know* many of these artists. I've seen them grow. And I've heard from many over the years as they worked through whatever it was they needed to work through to end up here.

Because it's not always a comfortable ride.

Sure, many come to the artistic life out of simple joy, out of the pure delight in learning to create something amazing.

But others come to art for a reprieve from suffering, or for healing, or for catharsis.

More times than I can recall, I've received messages and emails from students thanking me for providing this world of "AWAKE," where they can make friends, get inspired, and share their art. Too often (from the sounds of it) they have precious little support from friends or family. And too often there is something painful in their day-to-day lives they come here to rest from awhile.

The camaraderie of the group we've formed is powerful. The support the artists give one another is incredible. And I'm sure I only see a small part of it all.

There's something extraordinary in the creative act — in tapping into your imagination and stepping outside of your daily problems, worries, and concerns — and that state of wonder and release frequently fuels the most powerful artwork you find here each month.

Not that you would ever know it.

But that impassioned reach for *meaning* and *freedom* and *importance* inspires more of the artwork here than you might think.

And often, it's an impassioned endeavor precisely because "real life" can be so damned hard.

We have artists here who are suffering from chronic illness, from depression, from crushing ailments of all kinds.

We have artists who are battling cancer. (And artists who have beat it back.)

We have artists who have lost loved ones — friends, parents, even children.

We have artists grieving over the loss of dear pets that felt like family to them and might as well have been.

We have artists who have lost their jobs, artists trapped in awful relationships, artists struggling with addictions, artists dealing with families that are falling apart.

Yet through *all of this* … they CREATE.

They fight on.

They find something beautiful and important, a voice of their own, a voice defiant of suffering and loss . . . And from that place, in spite of everything life throws at them, they create ART.

They create. And they leave their mark on this world.

And that both inspires and humbles me.

- Sebastian
https://QuillAndCamera.com

Image by Cathrine Blan
https://artboja.com/art/316xid/

The Rain Never Bothered Me

Lauren Martin
(USA)

http://www.paintedhandphotography.com/

Balloon Race

Debra Jean Kelday
(UK)

After the Bath

TD Matthews
(USA)

http://www.500px.com/tmphotoman

The Alchemist

Queen Flora

Ali Oppy
(New Zealand)

Red Wind of
the Forest

https://mystic-sparrow.pixels.com/
https://artboja.com/art/lzqpfy/

Caroline Julia Moore
(UK)

Containment Of Panic

https://www.facebook.com/CarolineJuliaMoore/

Air

Water

Vibeke Alvestad Johansen
(Norway)

http://www.imagocollectico.no/
https://artboja.com/art/1etkg2/

The Citadel

Janet Sipl
(USA)

Forever
Lost

http://www.flickr.com/photos/janetsipl/

Metamorphosis

Cathrine Blan
(UK)

https://www.behance.net/dollycathy
https://artboja.com/art/316xid/

Grace

Lady Antoinette

Evelyn Elwan
(USA)

Cabaret Backstage

Jim Laskowicz
(USA)

http://artboja.com/art/kghhxj

The Visionary

Jean Hutter
(USA)

http://www.jeanmhutter.com/
https://artboja.com/art/wh7jv6/

Not Lost

Choices

Leanne M Williams
(Australia)

Photography of Old

https://artboja.com/art/d0l9th/
https://www.facebook.com/leannemwilliamsimages/

Solitude

Kathleen Greenwood
(USA)

https://artboja.com/art/j55odc

Heightened Awareness

Charlene Maginn
(Canada)

https://www.flickr.com/photos/138006169@N07/

Meara

Johanna Goudsblom
(New Zealand)

http://assetimagery.zenfolio.com/
http://artboja.com/art/13enw6/

Trapped Soul

Alemka

Bila Bozem
(Germany)

https://artboja.com/art/8rn7ir/

Djella

Salena

Rochelle Marshall
(New Zealand)

The Librarian

Anna Czekala
(France)

https://artboja.com/art/s7ovmw/

https://artboja.com/art/p41f0u/

Mynas in Morning Light

Merrilee Soberg
(Canada)

Standing Tall

Carnivale #1

Julie Powell
(Australia)

http://www.juliepowelldigitalartistry.com/

Sulphur Crested
Cockatoo

Welcome Spring

Clarissa Wilson
(USA)

http://clarissawilson.com/

It’s For You

Nicole Wilde
(USA)

http://www.photomagicalart.com/

Think Happy Thoughts

Kathryn Vince
(USA)

Head Above Water

Companionable Silence

http://www.eversonphotography.com/

Beverly Everson
(USA)

The Whole Story

Still Life with Fractals

Janice S. Batterbee
(Spain)

https://artboja.com/art/y1ogt4/

My Heart Stays With You

Anne Herbert
(New Zealand)

Featured Artist

Cheryl Parris

Stranded

" Story telling - that is what it is all about for me. I enjoy experimenting with many different styles and techniques, but always try to create an image that brings the viewer into my world, engaging them visually and emotionally. For me that is the best part of creating art. "

Dressed in Spring

Admit One

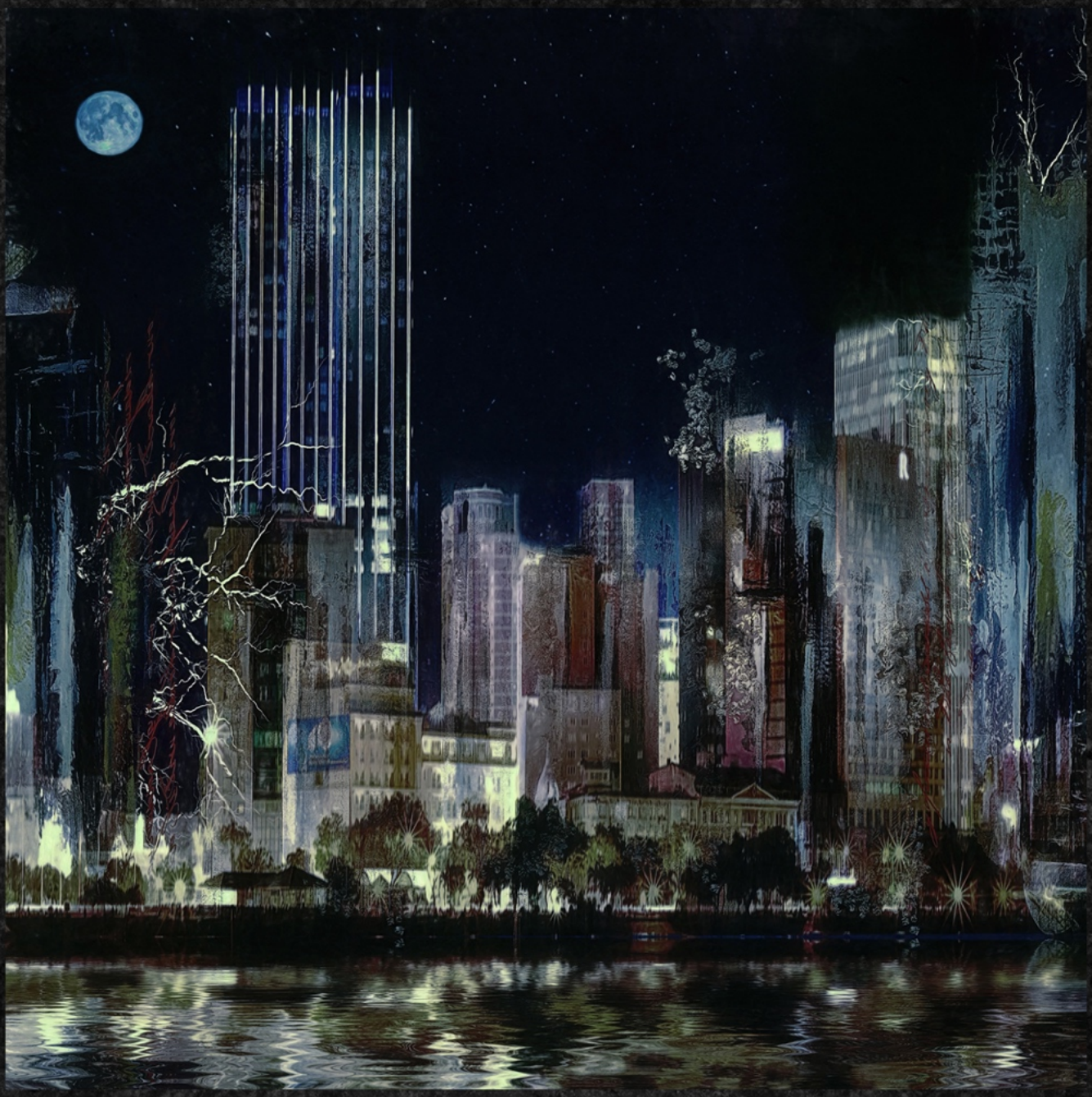
“Living the photo artistic life means working every day, learning new things and growing as an artist.”

Fireworks

The Dog Goes with Me

Monday Monday

“ It is so exciting to wake up every morning, pull up a blank canvas, and see what happens. Inspiration can come from anywhere, an interesting background I see when scrolling through my photos, a texture, a color, a person or animal, but I always know when I find it, and become immersed in the creative process and just let it happen. ”



Night Reflections

Cheryl Parris

(USA)

http://www.cherylparrisphotography.com/

Lace

Nancy Lober
(USA)

https://artboja.com/art/1vr8iu/
https://www.flickr.com/photos/sheilatennes/

Snowy Egret Landing

Sheila Tennes
(USA)

Love Waits

Spring has Sprung

http://www.barbaramierauklein.com/
https://artboja.com/art/0xmo9f/

Barbara Mierau-Klein
(USA)

Spring Time

Childhood Remembered

Bernie Tuffs
(UK)

https://artboja.com/art/utucc4/

Radella

Gail Edwards
(Canada)

https://artboja.com/art/gvw704/

Isle of Ambrose

At Midnight

Pam Henderson
(Australia)

https://www.facebook.com/snapnshootdesigns/
https://artboja.com/art/dmfi9d/

Central Park

Shadow Self

Phyllis Grannis
(USA)

http://www.phyllisgrannis.com/

Museum Tour

2 Buses on Regent Street

Nicky Jameson
(Canada)

http://nickyjamesonphotography.com/

Beloved

Renea Warnock
(USA)

http://www.reneamw.com/

Breaking Point

Waiting for the Train

Nancie Rowan
(USA)

Time Travel

https://artboja.com/art/j98ilq/

The End of All Things

Norma Slack
(UK)

Once Upon a Time in the Forest

Patricia Saldana
(USA)

Books are Magic

http://www.patriciasaldanaphotography.com/

Jewel of the Garden

Donna Dean
(Canada)

Ronin

http://www.donnadean.ca/

Bridge Between

Jennifer Donohoe
(USA)

https://artboja.com/art/xogv71/

Raziel and Seraph

Cindy Charles
(Canada)

Montréal en Lumiere

Sharing Secrets

Diana Haronis
(USA)

http://www.dianasphotoart.com/

Mary Lou

Francine Malo
(Canada)

https://artboja.com/art/eqme8c/

http://artboja.com/art/pemm4v/

Stage Coach in Tombstone

Jeff Valdez
(USA)

Spirit of
The Horse

The Folly of Youth

Nicholas Sweet-Rogers
(UK)

https://artboja.com/art/f0j70z/

Teddy Bear

Sir Duckworth –
Private Eye

Sonia Pusey
(Australia)

Shadows of
My Mind

Warring Angel

Myriam Kriel
(USA)

https://500px.com/myriamkriel
https://artboja.com/art/xd2qor/

The Tower

Catherine King
(USA)

http://www.ckingfineart.com/

Wendy

Synchronize ...

August Naude
(South Africa)

No Encore

http://www.augustnaudephotography.com/
https://artboja.com/art/akrxnj/

Atropos

Aglaea

Amelia Blanco
(Cuba)

http://www.ameliablanco.com/
http://www.ameliabdigitalartistry.com/

Sue Masterson
(Australia)

Hatter's Cat

Escape from the Forest

Luana Laubscher
(South Africa)

Fences

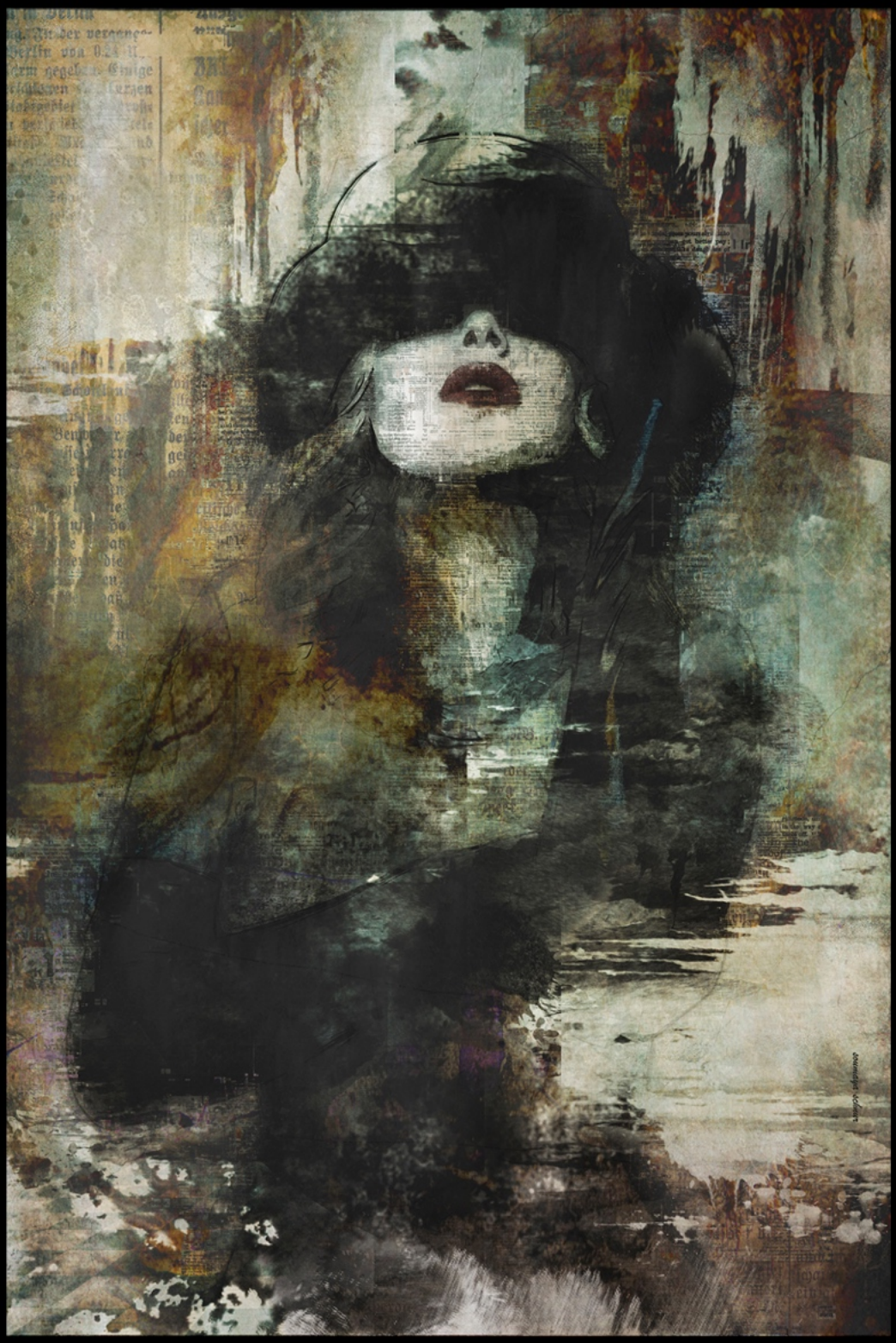
Nesting

Chasing the Light

Laoise

Lou Ann Donahue
(USA)

https://artboja.com/art/hcghtr/



Being One with Your Work

Soumaya Schnur
(USA / Morocco)

Sea Stack

Philip McLoughlin
(Ireland)

The Daffodil

Dawn Spears
(England)

Apocalyptic Puppet

https://artboja.com/art/nav633/

Rhino

Dan Lavery
(Canada)

https://artboja.com/art/gcjfzb/

Barn on a Hil

Dale Botha
(Australia)

https://artboja.com/art/x1el96/

Serenity

Maggy R.
Thorvaldsdottir Pease
(USA)

https://maggy.myportfolio.com/
https://artboja.com/art/3d2tlc/

Curiosity

Inquiring Mind

Afternoon Stroll

Ray Kingsbury
(USA)

http://www.rk2studio.com/

Tuscan Ride

Full Moon

Bob Rude
(USA)

Sundown Meeting

Louise Campbell
(Australia)

https://artboja.com/art/uaoyol/
http://www.facebook.com/DigitDesignStudio

Sand Play

Rebecah Thompson
(USA)

http://www.rebecahthompsondi.com/
https://www.artboja.com/art/qawqkh/

Summertime Rain

Red Elephant
of Tsavo

Bernice Fargus
(Australia)

Zebra Fight

Underwater Library

Tina Wilson
(USA)

http://www.flickr.com/photo/ditterbug

Gloriana (Elizabeth I)

Deborah de Juan
(USA)

https://www.mycornerattheedgeoftheworld.com/

I Love You Truly

Tracy Cooper
(USA)

Self Portrait

Belladonna

Susan Pulaski
(USA)

http://susanpulaskiart.com/
http://artboja.com/art/6ejfke

Spring Forest

Racing Home

Wanda Ann Kinnaman
(USA)

http://www.kwdesignstudio.com/

Parcel

Tiyana Marjanovic
(UK)

http://www.tiyanaart.com/

A Joyful Nature

Tonnie Wolfe
(USA)

http://www.tonniewolfe.com/

The Jester

Out on a Limb

Patricia K. Saizan
(USA)

Birds of a Feather

http://www.patsaizanphotography.com/

Liar's Bridge

Viv Buckley
(Ireland)

http://www.artboja.com/art/xkk5gq/
http://www.vivbuckley.com/

WayneToTheMax
(USA)

The Satin Lining of Shells

http://www.waynetothemax.com/

Private
Lesson

Phil Clark
(USA)

https://artboja.com/art/63a1fk/

Tide Pool

Husky Communication

Marjut Korhonen
(Finland)

Veiled

https://artboja.com/art/ly66nh/

Awakening of Spring

Sheri Emerson
(USA/Canada)

http://www.photoartbysheri.ca/
http://www.sheriemerson.com/

Migration

Bethany Perron
(USA)

https://artboja.com/art/hcrvyv/

The Imagination Room

Richard Strange
(England)

Child's Play

Sadness

Barbara Dudzinska
(Australia)

White Roses

http://smartartplace.com/
https://artboja.com/art/7qn7s6/

Snip a Bit of Thread

Pamela Huntington
(USA)

Of this Earth

Trish Hoskin
(Australia)

http://www.trishhphotography.com/
https://artboja.com/art/726rzm

Bobcat Kittens
at Play

Lou Ann Goodrich
(USA)

http://louanngoodrich-photoartist.com/
http://artboja.com/art/sheqeg

Read and Dream

Bathed in Glory

Andy Dench
(Canada)

Where Fireflies Dance

Lamenting

Edwin Leung
(New Zealand)

https://500px.com/elkynz
https://artboja.com/art/ola8i6/

Woman in Red

Cindy Collier Harris
(USA)

http://creativearts.artistwebsites.com/
http://artboja.com/art/gxi8c2

Night Life

Rosebud

Cherry Hammons
(USA)

Saxy Music

https://artboja.com/art/255svz/
https://www.facebook.com/Cherrysartworks/

Morgana

Nina Irvin
(USA)

Fast Food

https://artboja.com/art/3whzmg/

Archaic Mysteries

Barbara A Lane
(USA)

http://www.barbaraalane.com/
https://artboja.com/art/y36pod/

Ruins

Denise McDermott
(Australia)

http://www.imagesbydenise.net/
http://www.artboja.com/art/vshjgn

Dreaming of Spring

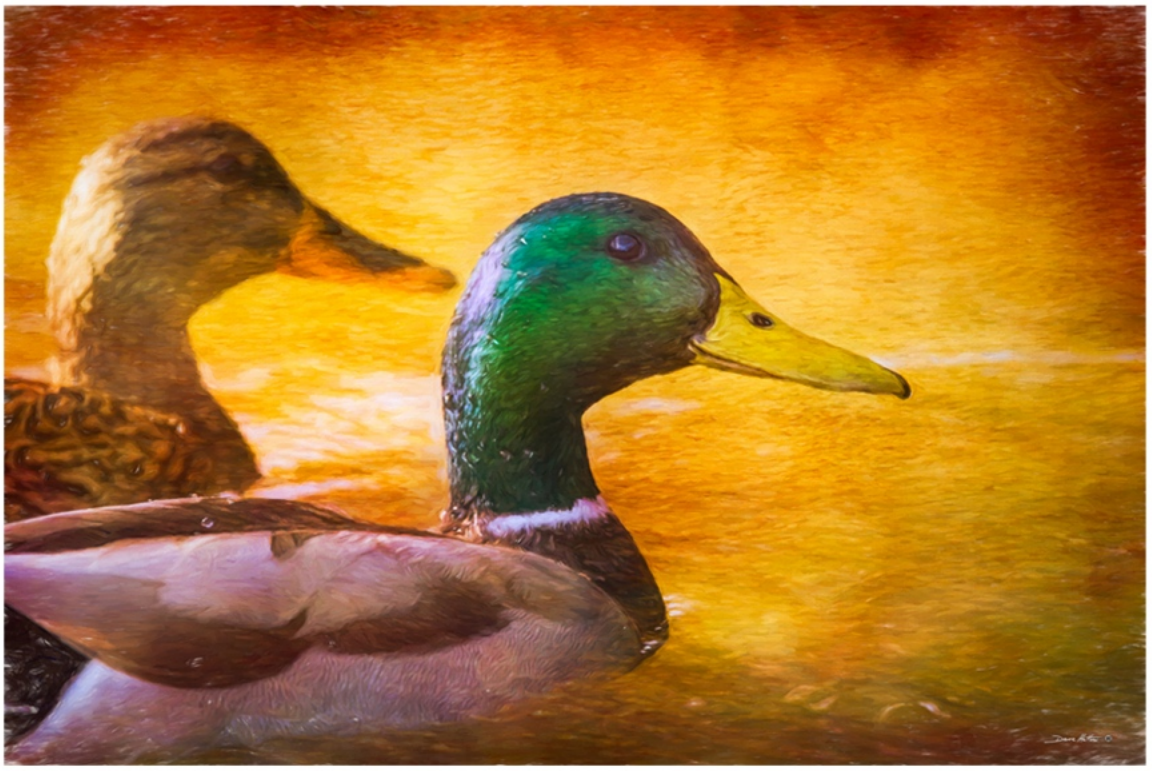
Nancy Brizendine
(USA)

Columbine

https://www.facebook.com/nbrizphotoart
https://artboja.com/art/wi7y8e/

Great Wall

Dave Hattori
(USA)



Mallards

http://www.davehattoriphotoart.com/
https://artboja.com/art/fhfufs/

The Frog Prince

Janet Rollins Donovan
(USA)

CONTRIBUTING DESIGNERS

"AWAKE" : LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

Amanda Rockwell

http://www.brushworkshop.com

A professional designer with ScrapbookGraphics, Amanda Rockwell creates fantastic content for the AWAKE and KAIZEN groups. But I think her greatest contribution is in encouraging digital artists to get away from their screens and break out the art supplies now and then and actually have fun creating their own custom brushes.

Anna Aspnes

http://annaaspnesdesigns.com

Again and again in the work of my top students I was seeing one name turn up constantly when they were citing the source of the artistic content in their work: Anna Aspnes. When I visited her website I was stunned, and when I saw her work in *Somerset Digital Studio* magazine I knew that this was a talent I needed on my team.

Caroline Julia Moore

https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/CarolineJuliaMoore

Over the past two years, I've watched as the immensely talented Caroline Julia Moore shifted from cognitive neuropsychologist to full-time self-employed artist and conceptual photographer … all while also launching a successful content-design business. Her contributions to the group have been a delight and an inspiration.

Cheryl Tarrant

http://www.distressedtextures.net

Cheryl Tarrant is the brilliant creator behind the superb iPhone app Distressed FX and the immensely popular content design studio Distressed Textures. In looking at her artwork, one can't but wonder if her images are paintings or photographs. And her textures are simply divine. We're very lucky to have her working with us as a designer!

Denise Love
http://2lilowls.com

The textures and backgrounds from 2 Lil' Owls are some of the finest in the digital art industry, and indeed many of the works in this magazine feature Denise's textures — often several in one piece. Without question the photo-artistic community is so much the richer for the love and care Denise brings to her designs.

Foxeysquirrel
http://www.foxeysquirrel.com

Immensely popular (and stunningly prolific), Foxeysquirrel is the name by which artist Teddi Rutschman is known around the world. Her artistic design kits bring together a wide range of styles — from the enchanted and purely whimsical to classic illustration, from the exquisitely ornate to elements with touches of dreamlike old world mastery.

itKuPiLLi
http://www.mischiefcircus.com/

itKuPiLLi is the rather unusual name donned by Kirsi Rouvinen, the celebrated digital artist from Finland. The itKuPiLLi Imagenarium at MischiefCircus.com is a source for whimsical digital goodies, and the content Kirsi creates for our KAIZEN group is always greeted with excitement and enthusiasm.

Jai Johnson
http://www.DailyTexture.com

Jai Johnson is a fine artist and the acclaimed designer behind "The Daily Texture." Time and again when a work of digital artistry caught my eye, I'd find Jai's name listed in the credits as the texture designer. It took some time to get her, but I'm extremely excited to now have Jai an active member of our KAIZEN design team.

Jen Maddocks
http://jenmaddocks.com

When some students introduced me to the work of Jen Maddocks, I was quite knocked flat. Here was a digital content creator who was as fabulous an artist as she was a designer. We are lucky to have her in our community and MORE than lucky to have her material and tutorials here in "AWAKE" and "KAIZEN."

Jill Catrinel
http://curiousandcultivated.com/

Jill Catrinel works out of her art studio just north of Asheville, making her one of the few designers here quite close to me. Her work is fresh and inspired, and it's exciting to look ahead to everything I will be able to coordinate with her as the projects in the "KAIZEN" group evolve over the year ahead.

Julie Mead
https://e-scapeandscrap.net

It's always exciting to see creative success stories, and Julie Mead has certainly become one! She stepped into the digital content scene not long ago it seems, but rapidly brought on a bunch of great designers (and of course created a wonderful stream of original content herself). We're lucky to have her on our team!

Kim Klassen
http://kimklassen.com

Kim Klassen was one of the very first truly world-class artists I had the immense privilege of working with when I first launched the original Photoshop Artistry course. It was her textures (and her photography) that first caught my attention. Only later did I realized how wonderful she is as a teacher as well.

CONTRIBUTING DESIGNERS

"AWAKE" : LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

Michelle Mondragon

http://mondragonphotoanddesign.com/

Recently we've brought on the talented photographer and artist Michelle Mondragon as part of our team (though she prefers to think of herself as a "creative"). She has been providing a steady stream of extraordinary content for our AWAKE artists to use in their compositions. We are beyond excited to have her with us.

Rebecca McMeen

http://www.rebeccamcmeen.com/

Joining our team just this year, Rebecca McMeen has proven a tremendous hit with her extraordinary material, all of it so rich and complex, whimsical and artistic. Her unique style has made for a fantastic addition to the library of content our artists are now able to employ, and the resulting creations are endlessly charming.

Tangie Baxter

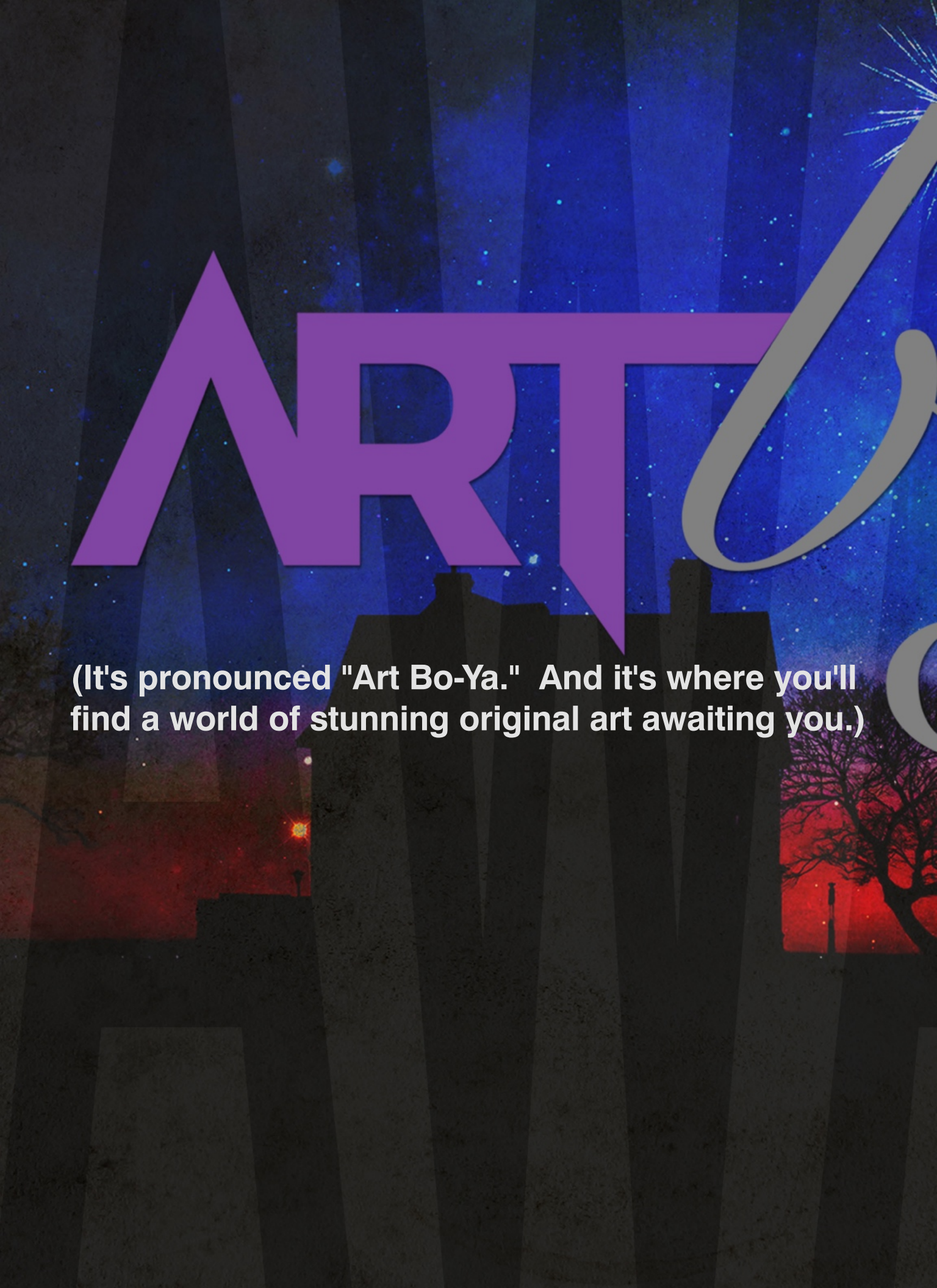
https://shoptangiebaxter.com/

Tangie Baxter is the lead artist of her own wildly successful design company with over a decade spent as dedicated “purveyors of digital art journaling supplies.” Her material is quirky and fun, and always a delight. Bringing her onto our team was a big event for us. Everything here got a lot more exciting with her arrival!

The Colby Files

http://www.thecolbyfiles.com/

The Colby Files is the intriguing moniker of a celebrated professional photographer located in Scottsdale, Arizona, specializing in female portraits, fashion art, model portfolios and fine art nudes. He has become our resident pro model photographer, providing an amazing library of images for our artists to work with when creating their masterpieces.


ART
(It's pronounced "Art Bo-Ya." And it's where you'll find a world of stunning original art awaiting you.)

Background Image Credit:
Steven Levine (USA)
https://artboja.com/art/o8vroe/

LIVING THE PHOTO ARTISTIC LIFE

PUSHING PHOTOGRAPHY FURTHER

INTERESTED IN CREATING PHOTO ART OF YOUR OWN?
GET STARTED HERE:
HTTP://PROPHOTOSHOPARTISTRY.COM

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